

FOCUS



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NOVEMBER 3, 2004

EVENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday

•5:30 p.m. – Cowboy Dinner and Show. This is a traditional dutch oven dinner with music and poetry at the Midway Town Hall. The show begins at 7 p.m.

Wednesday

•7 p.m. – The Heber Valley Historic Railroad's Cowboy Poetry Express. An intimate evening with poets and musicians aboard Heber's famous steam powered train.

Thursday

•5 p.m. – The Buckaroo Fair opens at Wasatch High School (WHS)
•5 p.m. – Mountain Man Trader's Camp opens at the WHS lawn.
•5 to 10 p.m. – Eddie Deen BBQ at WHS
•5 to 8 p.m. – Continuous Music and Poetry at the Cow Camp Stage
•7 p.m. – Dinner Concert, the Sons of the San Joaquin with the BYU Philharmonic Symphony at WHS Auditorium

Friday

•9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – The Harmony Horse Club presents Poetry in Motion at the Doug Holmes arena.

The Heber City Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Buckaroo Fair is set for Nov. 9 to Nov. 12

BY TISH DAHMEN
Way Editor

Celebrating its 10th year of bringing the best of Western music, poetry, barbeque, horse savvy and cowboy gear to Heber City, is the Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Buckaroo Fair.

The Gathering, which today attracts thousands of people from all over the country, began humbly in the Midway Town Hall with a handful of cowboy poets. Organized by "trail boss" Tom Whitaker and a few of his compadres, the Gathering has become one of the premiere events for Western entertainment in the United States.

One of the reasons the Gathering is so popular is because of the high caliber of talent showcased throughout the six days of events. "We've put together the funnest events that people can go to," Whitaker said. "You don't

have to be a cowboy to enjoy it. The shows are wonderful."

He added, "Because this is our tenth year,

Waddie Mitchell will once again host the Heber City Cowboy Poetry Gathering and

it's sort of a milestone for us. So we've brought in every big name we can buy. This year there are seven main shows," he said.

Included in the line up of talent is mega-star Michael Martin Murphey, Sons of the San Joaquin, Riders in the Sky, Ian Tyson, New West, Red Steagall, and the ever-popular Bar J Wranglers.

Another big draw are ticket prices. Whitaker said at other cowboy poetry and music shows, patrons will pay up to and beyond \$125 for tickets. At the Heber City Gathering, the highest price ticket is \$35 and it includes dinner – a barbeque by the world-famous Eddie Deen.

"We're doing our best to keep the shows



Photo courtesy of Cowboy Poetry
A close up of Midway artist Robert Duncan's contribution to this year's cowboy poetry gathering – he created the artwork for this year's commemorative poster. Duncan is renowned world-wide for his paintings of rural family life.

